



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
**SPECIES  
AT RISK**  
COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT  
2021-2022



# ANNUAL REPORT

Under subsection 23(1) of the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*, the Species at Risk Committee must submit an annual report to the Conference of Management Authorities by July 1 each year. This annual report covers the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022.

## THE SPECIES AT RISK (NWT) ACT

The *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* (the Act) provides a process to identify, protect, and recover species at risk in the Northwest Territories (NWT). The Act applies to any wild animal, plant or other species managed by the Government of the Northwest Territories. It applies in most areas of the NWT, on both public and private lands, including private lands owned under a land claims agreement.

Hairy braya - Photo Credit: Jim Harris



## THE SPECIES AT RISK COMMITTEE

The Species at Risk Committee (the Committee) was established under the Act. It is an independent committee of experts responsible for assessing the biological status of species at risk in the NWT.

Species status assessments are done at the territorial level and results may be different from assessments done at the national level. Assessments are based on species status reports that include the best available Indigenous knowledge, community knowledge and scientific knowledge of the species. The Committee must use objective biological criteria in its assessments and does not consider socio-economic factors.

The Committee uses the assessments to make recommendations on the listing of species at risk. The assessment categories for the legal list of species at risk are Extinct, Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern. Species can also be assessed as Not at Risk or Data Deficient. The Committee identifies threats and positive influences to species and their habitats, and may make recommendations on conservation measures for species at risk.

The Committee makes its recommendations to the Conference of Management Authorities, a group of boards and governments that share responsibility for the conservation and recovery of species at risk in the NWT. The Conference of Management Authorities includes wildlife co-management boards established under land claim and self-government agreements, the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Tłı̨chǫ Government, and the Government of Canada.



## COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Species at Risk Committee members are appointed by the four wildlife co-management boards established under settled land claim and self-government agreements and the federal government. The Government of the Northwest Territories, represented by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, appoints the other members. Appointments are for up to five years.

Committee members must have significant expertise of species, habitat, northern ecosystems, or conservation. Members act independently and not as representatives of their appointing bodies.

### Members:

- Chairperson: Mr. Leon Andrew
- Alternate Chairperson: Dr. Suzanne Carrière
- Ms. Alestine Andre
- Ms. Rosemin Nathoo
- Mr. Arthur Beck
- Ms. Kaytlin Cooper
- Ms. Lynda Yonge
- Mr. Moise Rabesca
- Dr. Nicholas (Nic) Larter
- Mr. Petter Jacobsen

### Alternates:

- Ms. Aimee Guile – alternate to Mr. Moise Rabesca
- Mr. Daniel Beck – alternate to Mr. Arthur Beck
- Dr. Deborah Simmons – alternate to Mr. Leon Andrew
- Mr. James Firth – alternate to Ms. Kaytlin Cooper
- Ms. Allison Thompson – alternate to Ms. Rosemin Nathoo

Biographies of members and alternates are available at [www.nwtspeciesatrisk.ca](http://www.nwtspeciesatrisk.ca)

## COMMITTEE PROGRESS APRIL 1, 2021 TO MARCH 31, 2022

The Species at Risk Committee held two meetings in 2021-2022. The Committee reassessed polar bear in April 2021. It also finalized species status reports for Peary caribou, boreal caribou and peregrine falcon in preparation for the 2022 assessments of these species. The Committee participated in a workshop on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) – Scientific Knowledge criteria.

An assessment schedule detailing species to be assessed or reassessed from 2023 to 2027 was developed and submitted to the Conference of Management Authorities for approval. The assessment schedule is revised annually.

All Species at Risk Committee documents, including species status reports and assessments, are available on the NWT Species at Risk website: [www.nwtspeciesatrisk.ca](http://www.nwtspeciesatrisk.ca).



Red-sided garter snake – Photo Credit: Paul Pratt

# RECORD OF SPECIES ASSESSMENTS

SPECIES	CURRENT ASSESSMENT	DATE OF CURRENT ASSESSMENT	ASSESSMENT HISTORY
<b>Hairy braya</b>	Threatened	December 2012	
<b>Dolphin and Union caribou</b>	Special Concern	December 2013	
<b>Northern leopard frog</b>	Threatened	December 2013	
<b>Wolverine</b>	Not at Risk	December 2014	
<b>Western toad</b>	Threatened	December 2014	
<b>Wood bison</b>	Threatened	April 2016	
<b>Porcupine caribou</b>	Not at Risk	April 2017	
<b>Barren-ground caribou</b>	Threatened	April 2017	
<b>Grizzly bear</b>	Special Concern	April 2017	
<b>Big brown bat</b>	Data Deficient	April 2017	
<b>Little brown bat</b>	Special Concern	April 2017	
<b>Northern myotis</b>	Special Concern	April 2017	
<b>Long-eared myotis</b>	Data Deficient	April 2017	
<b>Long-legged myotis</b>	Data Deficient	April 2017	
<b>McKay's bumble bee</b>	Data Deficient	April 2019	
<b>Yellow-banded bumble bee</b>	Not at Risk	April 2019	
<b>Gypsy cuckoo bumble bee</b>	Data Deficient	April 2019	
<b>Northern mountain caribou</b>	Special Concern	April 2020	
<b>Polar bear</b>	Special Concern	April 2021	Special Concern (December 2012)
<b>Peary caribou</b>	Threatened	May 2022	Threatened (December 2012)
<b>Boreal caribou</b>	Threatened	May 2022	Threatened (December 2012)
<b>Peregrine falcon</b>	Not at Risk	May 2022	

# ASSESSMENT/REASSESSMENT SCHEDULE FOR 2023-2027

<b>Spring 2023</b>	<b>New</b>	American white pelican ( <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i> )
	<b>Reassess</b>	Dolphin and Union caribou ( <i>Rangifer tarandus groenlandicus x pearyi</i> )
<b>Spring 2024</b>	<b>New</b>	Red-sided garter snake ( <i>Thamnophis sirtalis parietalis</i> )
	<b>Reassess</b>	Hairy braya ( <i>Braya pilosa</i> )
<b>Spring 2025</b>	<b>New</b>	Canadian toad ( <i>Anaxyrus hemiophrys</i> )
	<b>Reassess</b>	Western toad ( <i>Anaxyrus boreas</i> )
	<b>Reassess</b>	Northern leopard frog ( <i>Lithobates pipiens</i> )
<b>Spring 2026</b>	<b>New</b>	Common muskrat ( <i>Ondatra zibethicus</i> )
	<b>New</b>	Rock cranberry (lingonberry) ( <i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i> )
	<b>Reassess</b>	Wood bison ( <i>Bos bison athabascae</i> )
<b>Spring 2027</b>	<b>Reassess</b>	Northern myotis ( <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> )
	<b>Reassess</b>	Little brown myotis ( <i>Myotis lucifugus</i> )
	<b>Reassess</b>	Barren-ground caribou ( <i>Rangifer tarandus groenlandicus</i> )

\*The assessment schedule is subject to annual review and modification.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories, provides full administrative and financial support to the Species at Risk Committee. Contracts for preparing species status reports are advertised on [contracts.opennwt.ca](http://contracts.opennwt.ca).

## CONTACT

For more information about the Species at Risk Committee and its activities, please visit our website:

**[www.nwtspeciesatrisk.ca](http://www.nwtspeciesatrisk.ca)**

Or contact:

Species at Risk Secretariat

P.O. Box 1320

Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Toll-free: 1 (855) 783-4301

Fax: (867) 873-0293

E-mail: [sara@gov.nt.ca](mailto:sara@gov.nt.ca)

Respectfully submitted,



Leon Andrew, Chairperson  
Species at Risk Committee



Cover Photo:  
Peary caribou – Photo Credit: John Nagy/GNWT